

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 33-35 are pending in the present application, Claims 33-35 having been added, and Claims 21 and 29-32 having been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Support for new Claims 33-35 is found, for example, in Figs. 3, 4, 6, 30, 31, and 33, of the originally filed specification. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 21 and 29-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph; Claims 21 and 29-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Saeki et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,263,155, hereinafter Saeki) in view of Okada et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,148,140, hereinafter Okada) and Gotoh et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,292,625).

Applicants respectfully submit that the outstanding grounds of rejection are moot in view of cancellation of Claims 21 and 29-32. However, Applicants note that the language discussed in regards to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, is not included in the newly presented claims.

Applicants respectfully submit that new Claim 32 patentably distinguishes over Saeki, Gotoh, and Okada, taken alone or in proper combination. New Claim 32 recites, *inter alia*,

a control information recording area storing the control information...and including movie file information table M_AVFIT having...a second area configured to store movie AV file information M_AVFI describing information on said data area for the VOB data, **said M_AVFI including one or more movie VOB information search pointers M_VOBI_SRPs associated with one more pieces of movie VOB information M_VOBI...**

each said M_VOBI includes time map information TMAPI including time map general information TMAP_GI, one or more entries TM_ENTs, and one or more video object unit entries VOBU_ENTs,

each said VOBU_ENT includes **playback time information** VOBU_PB_TM of a corresponding video object unit VOBU of the video object units and **size information** VOBU_SZ of the corresponding VOBU, [and]

each said TM_ENT includes **numeral information** VOBU_ENTN on a corresponding video object entry VOBU_ENT of the video object unit entries.

Saeki, Gotoh, and Okada, taken alone or in proper combination, do not disclose or suggest these elements of Claim 32.

Saeki does not disclose or suggest the combination of object information search pointers (M_VOBI_SRPs), playback time information (VOBU_PB_TM), size information (VOBU_SZ), and numeral information (VOBU_ENTN) as described in Claim 32.

Fig. 12 of Gotoh describes the data structure of a disk in which a computer file and an AV file are mixedly recorded.¹ Fig. 3 of Gotoh is a diagram illustrating a data structure of a file and file management information. The data structure of Gotoh does not include a control information recording area that includes the combination of object information search pointers (M_VOBI_SRPs), playback time information (VOBU_PB_TM), size information (VOBU_SZ), and numeral information (VOBU_ENTN) as described in Claim 32.

Fig. 12A of Okada shows a data hierarchy in the RTRW management file. The time map table shows the size of each VOBU that composes the VOB and the reproduction period of each VOBU.² However, Okada does not disclose or suggest a control information recording area that includes the combination of object information search pointers (M_VOBI_SRPs), playback time information (VOBU_PB_TM), size information (VOBU_SZ), and numeral information (VOBU_ENTN) as described in Claim 32.

In view of the above-noted distinctions, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 32 patentably distinguishes over Saeki, Gotoh, and Okada, taken alone or in proper combination.

¹ Gotoh, col. 11, lines 35-37.

² Okada, col. 26, lines 39-41.

Amended Claims 33 and 34 recites features similar to those recited in amended Claim 32.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 33 and 34 patentably distinguish over Saeki, Gotoh, and Okada, taken alone or in proper combination, for at least the reasons stated for Claim 32.

Accordingly, in view of the present amendment and the previous discussion, no further issues are believed to be outstanding and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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